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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## WORLD HOG NUMBERS

World hog numbers increased 5 percent last year, as all major areas registered gains. Numbers at the beginning of 1960 were 39 percent above the 1951-55 average.

North American numbers were less than 2 percent over 1959 but 12 percent above the 1951-55 average. Numbers in South America rose 2 percent from 1959 and jumped 41 percent over 1951-55. Numbers in Europe increased 3 percent last year and are now 20 percent above average. U.S.S.R. numbers were up sharply from 1951-55 for an 86-percent gain; the increase during 1959 was about 9 percent.

HOGS: Total Number in continent or area, average 1951-55, annual 1957-60

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Note: This circular contains more detailed information than the world summary of similar title published in the monthly supplement issue of Foreign Crops and Markets of April 28, 1960



In Africa, there was a gain of 3 percent from 1959 and 38 percent from the average. Asia showed a rise of 6 percent during 1959 and numbers now are 59 percent above average. Oceania numbers gained more than 6 percent last year and are 22 percent above the 1951-55 average.

#### North America

United States expansion of hog numbers slackened considerably during 1959. Numbers increased only 3 percent, compared with 12 percent in 1958, mainly because of lower price levels and hog-corn price ratios. A further decline in numbers is expected during 1960.

In Canada, the sharp 1957-58 uptrend in numbers was reversed in 1959; numbers dropped 7 percent, compared with a 33-percent rise in 1958. Principle reasons for this reversal were lower hog prices in general; the lower price supports that were set in October 1959; and uncertainties about the new method of support price payments to be adopted. In January 1960, a limited direct deficiency payment program to registered producers replaced the method of government hog purchasing in the markets. Numbers are expected to continue declining in 1960.

U.S. and Canadian hog prices are now about equal and are expected to remain so during 1960; thus Canadian pork exports to the United States will probably be moderate this year. The Canadian Government controls pork exports to the U.S. to prevent shipment of government-aided production at artificially low prices.

Mexico's hog numbers have been gradually increasing since 1956, following sharp increases during the early fifties. This has been due mainly to increased living standards and growing demand for meat. Imports of breeding swine in 1959 were 8,288 head, a record number, as greater emphasis was being given to hog raising. Hog numbers are expected to grow during 1960 and there will also be an improvement in quality.

Numbers in Cuba declined during 1959 due to confiscation or intervention in the management of farms as policies of the agrarian reform law became operative. Some cooperatives under the new agrarian program plan to import large numbers of breeding hogs in 1960, mainly from the United States, and the farm program adherents expect to increase hog numbers this year. However, there is considerable evidence that the agrarian reform program will continue to lag, and any sharp increase in production this year is highly unlikely. In Colombia numbers increased slightly during 1959 but are still well below the 1951-55 average. Although there is renewed interest in swine production numbers are not expected to increase much during 1960.

#### South America

Numbers in Argentina, Brazil, and Venezuela are believed to have increased slightly. In Venezuela, the inauguration of a swine development program should bring sizable increases this year. This program

includes prospective imports of U.S. breeding stock. The Venezuelan Government, which has the best foreign exchange position of any South American country, has ambitious plans to develop its livestock and meat industry. This is a major part of an effort to diversify the country's economy and reduce dependence on the oil industry. Their policy is to restrict livestock imports to breeding animals, and meat imports to fresh meats that will be processed in Venezuela.

Peruvian numbers changed little during 1959 but are expected to increase during 1960. The government is encouraging hog production and plans to import some breeding stock, much of it from the United States, to improve quality and production.

### Western Europe

Numbers in most Western European countries increased during 1959, after a drop the year before, as gains in most countries offset declines in France and the United Kingdom. Denmark's numbers, steadily increasing for some time, rose even more sharply last year to reach a new high. Hog and pork prices were higher than in 1958 and quite favorable to producers. Foreign demand was strong, and the U.K. market particularly attractive. However, a reduced 1959 feed crop harvest, the prospect of oversupply, and slightly higher production costs discouraged hog breeding during the last half of the year, so that bred sow numbers at the end of 1959 were down sharply from the midyear high. This will check the rapid expansion, but numbers in 1960 will probably show a small increase over 1959. Denmark is concerned over the development of the Common Market trading agreement, which will tend to reduce Denmark's exports of pork and pork products to West Germany, Belgium, and Luxembourg and will tend to increase exports from the Netherlands and France to these countries.

In West Germany, a key country in Western Europe's hog and pork industry, numbers leveled off during 1959 after declining during the first half of the year. Breeding of sows began to increase from midyear in response to very high prices during the previous several months but slowed down at the year's end. Hog prices in December 1959 were below average, mostly due to large imports of slaughter hogs and pork. Prices have remained low. Numbers are expected to increase only slightly, if any, during 1960. Thus West Germany should continue as a good market for U.S. pork, variety meats, fatback, and lard although in the future the Common Market agreement will tend to increase exports from the Netherlands and France to Germany at the expense of the United States.

Austrian numbers changed very little during 1959 but are expected to increase some in 1960. The government's policy of price stabilization permits slaughter hog imports when a price rise justifies them. This has held down expansion in hog numbers in the past and will limit the 1960 increase. Nearly all imports of slaughter hogs come from Eastern Europe. Demand for pork products is increasing in Austria.



## HOGS: Number in specified countries, average 1951-55, annual 1957-60

Country	Month of estimate <u>1/</u>	Average 1951-55	1957	1958	1959 <u>2/</u>	1960 <u>2/</u>
		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
North America:						
Canada (Excluding Newfoundland).....	Dec. 1 <u>1/</u>	4,730	4,561	5,160	6,880	6,417
Mexico.....	Spring	6,670	8,220	8,400	8,600	8,700
United States (Continental)	Jan. 1	54,346	51,703	50,980	56,924	58,464
Hawaii.....	Dec. 31 <u>1/</u>	72	72	59	55	—
Puerto Rico.....	Jan.	86	65	88	74	—
Total Canada, Mexico, U.S. and Possessions <u>3/..</u>		65,940	64,650	64,720	72,570	73,740
Costa Rica.....	Spring	116	131	193	189	—
El Salvador.....	Oct. 1 <u>1/</u>	292	301	267	199	220
Guatemala.....	April	421	401	403	406	—
Honduras.....	Aug.	557	—	—	—	—
Nicaragua.....		270	330	—	—	375
Panama <u>4/</u> .....	Aug.	206	191	218	246	—
Total Central America <u>3/.</u>		1,890	2,030	2,110	2,080	2,200
Cuba.....	Dec. <u>1/</u>	1,448	1,725	1,750	1,780	1,725
Dominican Republic.....	July	1,033	1,523	—	—	—
Total Caribbean <u>3/.....</u>		3,950	4,740	4,790	4,840	4,810
Total North America <u>3/...</u>		71,780	71,420	71,620	79,490	80,750
South America:						
Argentina.....	June 30	3,484	3,489	3,163	3,470	—
Brazil.....	Dec. 31 <u>1/</u>	30,559	41,416	44,190	45,262	—
Chile.....	Jan. 1	903	980	990	1,000	1,000
Colombia.....	Oct. 1 <u>1/</u>	2,363	1,455	1,770	1,800	1,870
Ecuador.....		594	994	1,080	—	—
Peru.....	Dec. 31 <u>1/</u>	1,302	1,281	1,366	1,371	—
Uruguay.....	May	258	387	395	400	405
Venezuela.....		1,564	2,362	—	—	—
Total South America <u>3/...</u>		41,560	52,980	56,050	57,670	58,690
Europe:						
Austria.....	Dec. 3 <u>1/</u>	2,624	2,727	2,917	2,838	2,844
Belgium-Luxembourg.....	Jan. 1	1,427	1,482	1,431	—	—
Denmark <u>5/</u> .....	Dec. 31 <u>1/</u>	4,003	4,777	5,294	5,562	6,205
Finland.....	June 15	461	436	534	534	—
France.....	Oct. <u>1/</u>	7,225	7,728	8,063	8,431	8,299
Germany, West <u>6/</u> .....	Dec. 3 <u>1/</u>	13,182	14,502	15,509	14,745	14,865
Greece.....	Dec. 31 <u>1/</u>	603	641	640	631	635
Ireland.....	Jan.	705	741	873	793	875
Italy.....	Jan.	3,920	3,921	3,900	—	—
Netherlands.....	Dec. <u>1/</u>	2,206	2,555	2,757	2,554	2,938
Norway.....	Dec. <u>1/</u>	327	420	399	361	405
Portugal.....	Dec. <u>1/</u>	71,800	—	—	—	1,900
Spain.....	May 31	4,974	5,150	5,200	—	—
Sweden.....	April	1,484	1,902	2,081	—	—
Switzerland.....	April	981	1,160	1,190	1,226	1,400
United Kingdom.....	Dec. <u>1/</u>	5,304	6,065	6,576	6,699	6,017
Total West Europe <u>3/.....</u>		51,260	56,030	59,130	58,850	59,860
Albania.....		65	96	—	—	—
Bulgaria.....	Jan.	1,193	1,468	1,990	2,054	2,265
Czechoslovakia.....	Jan. 1	4,380	5,369	5,435	5,283	5,687
Germany, East.....	Dec. 3 <u>1/</u>	7,694	8,326	8,255	7,504	—
Hungary.....	March	4,857	4,996	5,338	6,225	—
Poland.....	June 30	9,501	12,325	11,959	11,221	—
Rumania.....	Jan.	3,364	—	3,249	4,008	4,500
Yugoslavia.....	Jan. 15	4,307	3,725	4,243	5,656	6,198
Total East Europe <u>3/.....</u>		35,360	40,400	40,570	42,050	44,250
Total Europe <u>3/.....</u>		86,620	96,430	99,700	100,900	104,110

(Continued)

## HOGS: Number in specified countries, average 1951-55, annual 1957-60--(Continued)

Country	Month of estimate 1/	Average 1951-55	1957	1958	1959 2/	1960 2/
		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia).....	Jan. 1	28,720	40,800	44,300	48,700	53,300
<b>Africa:</b>						
Algeria 8/.....	Nov. 20 1/	97	77	80	57	---
Tunisia.....	Dec. 31 1/	19	16	11	7	---
Total North Africa 3/.....		340	285	275	245	235
Angola.....	Dec. 31 1/	247	275	288	293	300
Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi.....	Dec. 31 1/	310	382	403	414	---
French West Africa 9/.....		284	---	---	---	---
Ghana.....		116	120	120	120	---
Kenya 10/.....	Dec. 1/	41	44	---	---	---
Malgache.....	Dec. 1/	274	284	291	311	---
Nigeria and British Cameroons		250	220	---	---	---
Rhodesia and Nyasaland 11/...	Dec. 31 1/	227	253	268	260	---
Tanganyika.....	Dec. 1/	14	12	19	20	---
Togo.....		192	225	225	225	---
Union of South Africa 12/.....	Aug. 31	1,205	1,300	1,410	---	---
Total South Africa 3/.....		3,765	4,190	4,330	4,440	4,585
Total Africa 3/.....		4,105	4,475	4,605	4,685	4,820
<b>Asia:</b>						
Cyprus.....	Dec. 1 1/	35	33	39	35	---
Turkey (Europe and Asia).....	Nov. 1/	---	112	120	120	121
Total South-West Asia 3/...		175	180	195	195	190
China Mainland 13/.....	June	90,000	114,000	120,000	135,000	---
Total East Central Asia 3/		90,650	114,650	120,650	135,650	145,650
Burma.....	March	530	555	569	---	---
Cambodia.....	Dec. 1/	552	407	---	---	---
China, Taiwan.....	Dec. 1/	2,437	3,041	3,331	3,573	---
India 14/.....	May	3,890	---	---	---	---
Indonesia.....		1,196	1,616	---	---	---
Japan.....	Feb. 1	781	1,546	1,649	2,244	2,510
Korea, South.....	Dec. 1 1/	567	1,161	1,233	1,324	---
Laos.....	Dec. 1 1/	194	---	---	---	---
Malaya.....		336	396	398	418	---
Philippines 15/.....	Mar. 31	4,710	6,026	6,084	6,574	7,100
Thailand.....	Mar. 31	3,230	3,739	4,036	4,728	---
Vietnam.....	Dec. 1/	2,000	2,565	3,384	4,000	---
Total South and East Asia 3/		21,310	27,050	28,780	31,620	32,460
Total Asia.....		112,135	141,880	149,625	167,465	178,300
<b>Oceania:</b>						
Australia.....	Mar. 31	1,129	1,325	1,423	1,297	---
New Zealand.....	Jan. 31	618	602	628	692	628
Total Oceania 3/.....		1,910	2,130	2,250	2,190	2,320
TOTAL WORLD 3/.....		346,830	410,115	428,150	461,100	482,300

1/ Census or estimate for year shown except that end of year (October-December) is included under the following year for comparison and totals. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Includes allowance for any missing data for countries shown and for other producing countries not shown. 4/ Adjusted to include Bocas del Toro and Darien. 5/ Excludes Faroe Islands and Greenland. 6/ Includes Saarland and West Berlin. 7/ Less than a 5-year average. 8/ Number taxed only. 9/ Includes Guinea which became independent October 1958. 10/ European-owned only. 11/ European-owned stock 9/30, other 12/31. 12/ Includes estimate for native-owned. 13/ Includes 22 provinces, Manchuria, Sinkiang, and Tibet. Excludes Outer Mongolia. 14/ Census May 1951 through August 1952. 1956 March and April. 15/ January is month of estimate for 1951-55 average.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source material, reports of United States Agricultural Attaches and other representatives abroad, results of office research and related information.

April 28, 1960.



Total numbers in France declined moderately, as numbers of breeding stock and pigs under 6 months old dropped sharply because drought conditions forced heavy slaughter. This situation led to a decline in prices, and discouraged further breeding. Lower prices are expected to continue for much of 1960 and numbers are expected to decline some more.

Numbers in the United Kingdom declined sharply. The decline was attributed to the reduction of government supports in 1958. However, government payments for 1960 have been increased and numbers are expected to rise this year.

### Eastern Europe

Numbers continued a substantial upward trend during 1959 in most of these countries and this trend is expected to continue during 1960. Government planners in this area continue to place emphasis on hog and pork production and are encouraging a shift from lard-type hogs to meat types.

Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia continue their interest in retaining and expanding export markets for processed pork products. Some canned hams and other pork products have been shipped to the United States. Poland is also interested in maintaining and increasing export markets for pork. It has been a principal exporter of canned hams to the United States. Poland had a very poor harvest in 1959 because of drought; this will limit increases in hog numbers in 1960.

The rapid rate of expansion in the U.S.S.R. continued during 1959 as the Russians continued to place priority on building numbers of fast maturing stock. This expansion is expected to continue during 1960.

### Africa

The uptrend of the last several years continued in 1959. Numbers should increase again during 1960. The Union of South Africa continues to be the only African country with a large commercial hog industry, although the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland has begun to develop a commercial hog industry of potential significance. Nyasaland recently began construction of a large modern hog slaughter plant.

### Asia

Hog numbers continued to increase during 1959 in Asia, with an estimated 6-percent rise. (Hogs are the major meat animal in this area.)

Communist China still has about one-third of the world's hogs. It is believed that numbers increased during 1959, particularly during the last half of the year. The Communists have reported unusually large gains in numbers in recent years, but these were numbers reported at the end of the year when formerly they were reported in June.



The sharp uptrend in Japan's hog numbers continued in 1959, with a 13-percent gain attributable to increasingly heavy domestic demand for pork products. This strong demand is due to rising living standards and a shift from the traditional rice and fish diet to a red meat diet; the shift was stimulated when Japan lost a large part of its fishing grounds to the U.S.S.R. a few years ago. The Japanese Government continues to encourage hog production, and the uptrend in numbers is expected to continue during 1960.

The Philippines showed an 8-percent increase during 1959 and numbers are expected to increase further this year, as in this area, too, living standards have risen and demand for pork has strengthened. The Philippine Government also strongly encourages hog production in an attempt to attain self-sufficiency in meat.

#### Oceania

Hogs remain relatively unimportant in Oceania, but improved hog prices in Australia since late 1959 are believed to have caused a significant increase in numbers since then. This increase is expected to continue during 1960. New Zealand numbers declined slightly during 1959 and are not expected to change much in 1960.

United States Department of Agriculture  
Washington 25, D. C.

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